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laser beam, it is evident that the same effect will be obtained. Further, by applying the present embodiment to the second process of embodiment 1, a mark of a clear contrast was successfully obtained.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims ~~5~~, ~~6~~, ~~13~~, ~~14~~, ~~16~~, ~~22~~, ~~24~~, and ~~25~~ without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1, 9-12, 15, and 23 are amended as follows:

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1. (Three Times Amended) A method for marking materials using a marking material and a material to be marked consisting of a light transparent body or a laser transmittive body, comprising:

a first process of placing a surface of said material to be marked and a surface of said marking material together with a desired gap therebetween, vaporizing said marking material by irradiating through said material to be marked with a first laser beam while scanning with the first laser beam, and depositing a deposit vaporized from said marking material onto a predetermined portion of said material to be marked; and

a second process of at least one of removing or denaturalizing a part of said deposit deposited onto the surface of said material to be marked by irradiating the part of the deposit with a second laser beam while scanning with the second laser beam;

wherein patterns of characters, diagrams or symbols are formed on said material to be marked; and

wherein said desired gap is between $2\mu\text{m}$ and $200\mu\text{m}$.

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9. (Twice Amended) A marking material for use in claim 1, wherein the marking material used is a metal, alloy, intermetallic compound, or compound thereof.

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10. (Three Times Amended) A method for marking materials according to claim 1, wherein the deposited marking material is a thin film formed on the surface of the material to be marked having a thickness of 10 μm or less.

11. (Once Amended) A marking material for use in claim 1, wherein the marking material is steel or stainless steel.

12. (Twice Amended) A marking material for use in claim 1, wherein the marking material is either a martensite or a ferrite stainless steel, or a carbon steel, or a steel with a carbon content of 0.25% or less.

15. (Twice Amended) A method for marking materials according to claim 1, wherein one of the patterns formed is QR Code, Data Code, Veri Code, a two-dimensional code, or a bar code.

23. (Once Amended) A method for marking materials according to claim 10, wherein the thickness is 0.1 to 2.0 μm .